

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 EPA-01 COME-00 EB-08
STR-05 SP-02 SIG-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 EA-10
FRB-03 INR-07 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06 OPIC-03
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 CEQ-01
SOE-01 DODE-00 L-03 NSF-01 NSC-05 PM-05 DOE-12
INT-05 HEW-04 ACDA-12 DLOS-09 /174 R

DRAFTED BY OES/ENP/EN:JBLANCHARD:EF
APPROVED BY OES/ENP:LGRANT
EPA:A.POPKIN
EUR/RPE:W.DAMERON
EUR/NE:D.GOODMAN
COMMERCE:J.LEWIS (SUBS)
EB/STR:G.WHITE (SUBS)
S/P:H.BLANEY (SUBS)

-----108376 210426Z /62

R 201802Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL OECD CAPITALS
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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FOR MTN

E.O. 11652: NA
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TAGS: SENV, OECD

SUBJECT: RECENT INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES IN TOXIC
SUBSTANCES

REF: (A) PARIS 35447, (B) STATE 281111, (C) STATE 281112

(NOTAL), (D) STATE 282507, (E) OSLO 5186, (F) BONN 19779,
(G) BRUSSELS 18162, (H) US BERLIN 2890 (NOTAL)

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE UPDATES AND MODIFIES FACTS OUTLINED IN REFTEL B, AND CHANGES ACTION REQUIREMENTS OF PARA 9, REFTEL B, BASED ON EXPLORATORY TALKS AT THE OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING, NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2 IN PARIS, AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION AMONG MEMBER COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES AT THAT TIME. END SUMMARY.

2. EVENTS HAVE MOVED SWIFTLY SINCE REFTEL B. AT THE PARIS MEETING (REFTEL A), U.S. HELD EXTENSIVE FORMAL AND INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH KEY COUNTRIES (SWEDEN, UK, FRG, SWITZERLAND, FRANCE, JAPAN, AND NETHERLANDS). SWEDEN HAS PICKED UP THE U.S. SUGGESTION FOR AN INFORMAL SHIRT-SLEEVE MEETING AND HAS DECIDED TO CONVENE A MEETING IN STOCKHOLM, APRIL 11-13, OF SENIOR LEVEL POLICY OFFICIALS FROM A LIMITED NUMBER OF COUNTRIES MOST IMMEDIATELY INVOLVED IN THE CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES. THERE WAS

GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE APRIL TIMING, WITH RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED ONLY BY FRANCE AND SWITZERLAND. WHILE NONE TOOK ISSUE WITH THE NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES, OR THE SWEDISH PROPOSAL TO CONVENE AN INFORMAL MEETING, SOME (E.G., ITALY AND BELGIUM) EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THEY MIGHT BE EXCLUDED. THE SWEDISH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REPRESENTATIVES OUTLINED THEIR THINKING AS TO THE PARTICIPANTS AND THE OBJECTIVES OF THE TALKS. WHILE THEY HAVE NOT YET DECIDED WHO THE INVITEES WILL BE, THEY HAVE DECIDED TO GO AHEAD AND ARE CONSIDERING PARTICIPATION OF TWELVE TO FOURTEEN COUNTRIES AND EC AND OECD, WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (WHO AND UNEP) AS POSSIBLE INVITEES. (IF QUERIED, POSTS SHOULD NOTE THAT USG BELIEVES EC COMMISSION SHOULD ATTEND AS PARTICIPANT. REF G).

3. THREE AREAS FOR POTENTIAL INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED: A) HARMONIZATION OF TECHNICAL APPROACHES TO THE CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES. MAJOR ACTIVITY HAS TAKEN PLACE WITHIN THE OECD, PRIMARILY IN THE CHEMICALS GROUP OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (PARA. 1, REF B). THIS ACTIVITY WILL BE SUPPORTED BY THE USG, WHICH WILL HOST A COORDINATING MEETING IN WASHINGTON IN FEBRUARY. B) HARMONIZATION OF NATIONAL LEGISLATION AND DOMESTIC POLICIES ON THE CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES. KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE STOCKHOLM TALKS WOULD BE TO AGREE ON THOSE ITEMS ON WHICH COOPERATION IS NECESSARY AND SHOULD COMMENCE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. AS OF THIS DATE,

THE FOLLOWING POSSIBLE SUBJECTS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED WITHIN THE USG: 1) PRINCIPLES FOR CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT, 2) MINIMIZATION OF NON-TARIFF TRADE BARRIERS, 3) PREMANUFACTURE SCREENING, 4) HARMONIZATION OF LABELING, DISPOSAL AND CONTROL REQUIREMENTS, 5) EARLY WARNING ON HAZARDS OF TOXIC CHEMICALS, AND 6) RESOURCE SHARING-DATA AND INFORMATION. FYI: THE FRG APPROACHED EPA (REFTEL F, NOTAL), ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A PREPARATORY MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON DECEMBER 15-16 TO DISCUSS TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES. EPA COULD NOT MAKE APPROPRIATE EXPERTS AVAILABLE, BUT ENCOURAGED MEETING AT A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME EARLY NEXT YEAR. EPA WOULD PREFER NOT TO ENGAGE IN A TIME-CONSUMING SERIES OF BILATERALS PRIOR TO APRIL MEETING, BUT DOES NOT WISH TO STIFLE GERMAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ENTHUSIASM FOR COOPERATION. END FYI. C) INITIAL SOUNDINGS ON AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION. SWEDEN AND USG EMPHASIZED THAT NO COMMITMENTS ARE EXPECTED AT STOCKHOLM. WHILE THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON DESIRABILITY OF DISCUSSING APPROACHES TO AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON TOXICS, CONCERNED NATIONS CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT DELAY POLICY-LEVEL CONSULTATIONS AND POSSIBLE CONCERTED ACTIONS. DISCUSSIONS AMONG COUNTRIES HAVING OR DEVELOPING TOXICS LEGISLATION SHOULD TAKE PLACE AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE PARALLEL ACTION IN TOXIC POLICIES, LAWS, AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION. FYI: THE USG IS IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING AN OVERALL STRATEGY FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY ON TOXIC CHEMICALS, INCLUDING POTENTIAL CONVENTION DEVELOPMENT. ALTHOUGH USG HAS NOT YET DEVELOPED A POSITION AS TO WHETHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION SPONSORSHIP, SUCH AS THE OECD, OR AN AD HOC MECHANISM WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR THIS PURPOSE, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT IN PARIS THAT THE OECD SHOULD PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THIS AREA AS EVIDENCED BY THEIR CURRENT PROGRAMS IN THE CHEMICALS GROUP. THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGY IN TOXIC CHEMICALS WILL BE INFLUENCED PRIMARILY BY THE VIEWS OF MAJOR PRODUCING AND CONSUMING NATIONS. IN FUTURE WORK ON CONVENTION, VIEWS OF OTHER NATIONS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS WELL. END FYI.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: CONSULTATIONS IN PARIS (REFTEL A) HAVE PROVIDED SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR SWEDISH DECISION TO PROCEED WITH THE APRIL MEETING. POSTS SHOULD NOT APPROACH HOST GOVERNMENTS REGARDING APRIL MEETING AT THIS TIME, SINCE IT IS PREFERABLE FOR SWEDES TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE. POSTS MAY DRAW ON THIS MESSAGE IF HOST GOVERNMENTS WISH TO DISCUSS TOXIC SUBSTANCES, BUT SHOULD NOT REFER TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STOCKHOLM MEETING (EXCEPT IN VERY GENERAL TERMS) UNTIL
AFTER SWEDES HAVE ISSUED INVITATIONS. DEPARTMENT WOULD
WELCOME SUGGESTIONS FROM ADDRESSEES ON ANY ASPECT OF
EMERGING TOXIC SUBSTANCES ISSUES. VANCE

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ORIGIN OES-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-03 /007 R

66011

DRAFTED BY OES/ENP/EN:JACK W BLANCHARD

APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:DRKING

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R 292323Z DEC 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USNATO

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FOL RPT STATE 302720 SENT ACTION TO ALL OECD CAPITALS
INFO BELGRADE, BERLIN, BUCHAREST, BUDAPEST, GENEVA,
MOSCOW, PRAGUE, SOFIA& WARSAW DTD 20 DEC 7

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 302720

FOR MTN

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV, OECD

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1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE UPDATES AND MODIFIES FACTS OUTLINED IN REFTEL B, AND CHANGES ACTION REQUIREMENTS OF PARA 9, REFTEL B, BASED ON EXPLORATORY TALKS AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING, NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2 IN PARIS, AND INFORMAL DISCUSSION AMONG MEMBER COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES AT THAT TIME. END SUMMARY.

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ACTIVITY HAS TAKEN PLACE WITHIN THE OECD, PRIMARILY IN THE CHEMICALS GROUP OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (PARA. 1, REF B). THIS ACTIVITY WILL BE SUPPORTED BY THE USG, WHICH WILL HOST A COORDINATING MEETING IN WASHINGTON IN FEBRUARY. B) HARMONIZATION OF NATIONAL LEGISLATION AND

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CONVENTION DEVELOPMENT. ALTHOUGH USG HAS NOT YET DEVELOPED A POSITION AS TO WHETHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION SPONSORSHIP, SUCH AS THE OECD, OR AN AD HOC MECHANISM WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE FOR THIS PURPOSE, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT IN PARIS THAT THE OECD SHOULD PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THIS AREA AS EVIDENCED BY THEIR CURRENT PROGRAMS IN THE CHEMICALS GROUP. THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGY IN TOXIC CHEMICALS WILL BE INFLUENCED PRIMARILY BY THE VIEWS OF MAJOR PRODUCING AND CONSUMING NATIONS. IN FUTURE WORK ON CONVENTION, VIEWS OF OTHER NATIONS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AS WELL. END FYI.

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STOCKHOLM MEETING (EXCEPT IN VERY GENERAL TERMS) UNTIL
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WELCOME SUGGESTIONS FROM ADDRESSEES ON ANY ASPECT OF
EMERGING TOXIC SUBSTANCES ISSUES. VANCE UNQUOTE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: STATE
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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SAS ID: 167008
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RECENT INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES IN TOXIC STANCES
TAGS: SENV, XX, OECD
To: OECD POSTS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a45bcbff-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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22 May 2009
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